

Providence Community Library
Board of Directors Minutes
November 21, 2016
Rochambeau Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Vice President Matthew Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Secretary Joan Dagle took the roll call, noting that 13 trustees were present constituting a quorum.

Present: Tony Aguilar, Avital Chatto, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Althea Graves, Alan Gunther, Christine Kue, Matthew Lawrence, Robert Lin, Mark McKenney, Deborah Schimberg, Pamela Vogel, Ken Wise.

Rochelle Lee arrived after the roll, making the quorum 14. Jyothi Subramaniam was elected to the board during the meeting (see Governance, below), making the quorum 15 from that point on.

Absent: Christian Caldarone, Elena Chiaradio, Grace Diaz, Patricia Raub, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot.

2. Minutes

P. Vogel moved that the board minutes from 10/17/16 be accepted as recorded. A. Graves seconded the motion. The motion passed 11-2. Abstentions: M. McKenney and M. Lawrence.

3. President's Report

Vice President M. Lawrence reported that the Saturday mini-golf event drew many families and that the evening party also went well.

4. Director's Report

Presentation on Strategic Planning: Jeffrey Cannell stated that the focus of strategic planning will be on how to maximize PCL's resources for the community for the long haul. He introduced Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, participating by Skype, our consultant for this process. Topics: The capacity of libraries to endure into the future; moving from a library-centered approach to a community-centered approach, requiring knowledge of what the community wants/needs; the board's role in allocating resources in the right direction. Jeff reported a probably start time of March for this work.

5. Program Coordinator's Report

As submitted.

6. Governance Report

J. Dagle presented the recommendation from the Governance Committee to elect Jyothi Subramaniam to an at-large position on the board. M. Lawrence introduced her. D. Schimberg moved the election of J. Subramaniam to an at-large position; T. Aguilar seconded the motion. **Vote:** 14-0. The motion passed.

J. Dagle congratulated Alan Gunther, staff representative to the board, on the completion of his second term and expressed the Board's appreciation for his service. The Board presented Alan with a gift certificate.

D. Schimberg circulated a sign-up sheet for the potluck dinner that will precede the December board meeting.

The January meeting will be held January 26 at South Providence with guest speaker Jack Martin (PPL).

7. Finance Report

S. Gibbs presented the Income Statement ending 10/31/16, noting that we are about where we should be for the year-to-date. M. McKenney moved (second: R. Lee)) to accept the 10/31/16 Income Statement.

Vote: 14-0-1. Abstaining: A. Gunther. The motion passed.

8. Development Report

Steve Kumins noted good reports about the mini-golf event. He reported that it raised over \$5000, a great success for a fall event

9. Facilities Report

As submitted.

S. Gibbs reported on the progress of Olneyville Library: final test completed; rebuilding and wiring of inside underway; Tucker Interiors is working on the furniture; possible reopening by end of January.

10. Advocacy Report

As submitted.

11. Public Comment

A. Gunther spoke regarding emails about the position of Children's Librarian (instead of Children's Specialist) at WPL. D. Furia noted staff concerns about the potential for layoffs. J. Romans noted that Specialists were upset and fearful. D. Whiting expressed her disappointment that she had not heard from anyone who was concerned; she stated her open door policy, and expressed her wish that staff would come to her with concerns before fear sets in.

A. Graves: December 3, Christmas Party, Smith Hill

D. Del Gais: December 3, Mount Pleasant holiday party.

P. Vogel: Rochambeau overflowing with book donations; contact R. Lin or P. Vogel if your library wants some.

12. Executive Session pursuant to: RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2): contract negotiations with staff union.

A. Chatto moved that the meeting go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2); A. Graves seconded the motion. **Vote:** 15-0. Unanimous.

Motion to return to public session: P. Vogel. Second: A. Chatto. **Vote:** 13-0. Unanimous. [A. Gunther was recused from the Executive Session; R. Lee left before conclusion.]

13. Motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session: P. Vogel. Second: M. McKenney. **Vote:** 13-0. Unanimous.

14. M. McKenney moved to adjourn the meeting. A. Graves seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle
Secretary